

m.

SCENE II.

Court before Justice SHALLOW'S House in
Gloucestershire⁹.

Enter SHALLOTS and SILENCE, meeting:

MOULDY,

SHADOW, WART, FEEBLE, BULL-CALF,

and Ser-

vants, behind.

SEAL. Come on, come on, come on;
give me

your hand, sir, give me your hand, sir:

an early

stirrer, by the rood ! And how

doth my good

cousin Silence ?

9 — Justice SHALLOW'S House in Gloucestershire.
From the following passage in *The Return from Parnassus*, 1606, we may conclude that Kempe was original Justice Shallow.—Burbage and Kempe are introduced, instructing some Cambridge students to act. Burbage makes one of the students repeat some lines of Hieronymo and King Richard III. Kempe says to another, "Now for you.—methinks you belong to my tuition and your face methinks would be good for a foolish Mayor, or a foolish Justice of Peace.—And again: Thou wilt do well in time if thou wilt be ruled by thy betters, that is, by myselfe, and such grave aldermen of the play-house as I am." It appears from Nashe's Apologie of Pierce Penniless, 1598, that he likewise played the Clown: "What can be made of a rope-maker more than a clowne. Will. Kempe, I mistrust it will fall to thy lot for a merriment one of these daies." MALONE.

i.—by the ROOD, i. e. the cross. POPE.
Hearne in his Glossary to Peter Langtoft, p. 544, under the word *cross*, observes, that although the *cross* and the *rood* are commonly taken for the same, yet the *rood* properly signified formerly the image of Christ on the cross; so as to represent both the cross and figure of our blessed Saviour, as he suffered upon it. The *roods* that were in churches and chapels were placed in shrines that were called *rood lofts*. "Rood-loft" (saith Blount) is a shrine whereon was placed the cross of Christ. The *rood* was an image of Christ on the cross, made generally of wood, and

erected in a loft for that purpose, iust over the
passage ^{out} of the
church into the chancel." REED.

Bullokar, however, is a better authority than
any of these
being contemporary with Shakspeare. In his
English Expositor,